

REMARKS

I. Status of the Application

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the rejections set forth in the Office Action of October 27, 2010 is respectfully requested.

By this amendment, claims 15, 17, and 34 have been amended and claims 1, 3, 16, 18-26, 28-30, 32-33, 35-43 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein. Claims 15, 17, and 34 are now pending in the application. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

II. Prior Art Rejections and Allowable Subject Matter

Currently, claims 1, 3, 16, 18-26, 28-30, 32-33, 35-43 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) and claims 15, 17, and 34 are indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

The prior art rejections are moot in view of the claim cancellations discussed above. Claims 15, 17, and 34 have been rewritten in independent form, and allowance thereof is thus respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, inasmuch as all of the outstanding issues have been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and action to such effect is earnestly solicited. If any issues remain after consideration of the response, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the Examiner's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

Takemori TAKAYAMA ET AL.

By /Andrew D. St.Clair/

Andrew D. St.Clair
Registration No. 58,739
Attorney for Applicants

Digitally signed by /Andrew D. St.Clair/
DN: cn=Andrew D. St.Clair, o=du,
email=astclair@wenderoth.com, c=US
Date: 2011.04.25 14:20:36 -04'00'

ADS/jjy
Washington, D.C. 20005-1503
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
April 25, 2011